Education and skill development will empower people to take advantage of employment opportunities. Special programmes will be implemented to develop skills, enhance technological levels and provide marketing channels for people engaged in traditional occupations.

Violation of labour laws

2992. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the statutory provisions meant for the protection of the labour interests are not being implemented by many industrial units;

(b) whether Government are aware that M/s Super Springs and M/s Garima Springs at D-235, Sector-10, Noida have been violating labour laws with impunity and have not been providing minimum wages, gratuity, provident fund and ESI facilities to its employees;

(c) the action being taken against these companies including their seizure and penal action;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) if not, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Report of Centre of Concern for Child Labour

2993. SHRI ABANI ROY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "32 million child labourers in India" as reported in Statesman dated 4th April, 2000;

(b) if so, whether the Centre of Concern for Child Labour has recently submitted a detailed report to Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the further steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINSTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (d) Government has noted

the contents of the news item captioned "32 million Child Labourers in India" published in the Statesman dated 4-4-2000. Some of the points mentioned in the news-item are as follows :

32 million school going age children are out of school in the country; percentage of children out of school is much higher in North India than Southern parts, enrolment of Boys and Girls in schools from Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes is low in proportion to the total enrolment; despite assurances Government has not moved ahead with Compulsory Education; urgent review of the Child Labour Rehabilitation Policy; and introduction of "Special primary education tax" in the country.

Centre of Concern for Child Labour has also submitted a report in April, 2000. The report, *inter-alia*, contains details on definition of Child Labour, extent of child labour, types of child labour, Government of India's Policy towards child labour, rehabilitation of child labour through different models and challenges for the future. Government has noted the contents of the Report.

Appointment of Protectors of Emigrants

2994. SHRI AHMED PATEL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have appointed Protectors of Emigrants under Emigration Act in Gujarat for emigration clearance of workers of the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to appoint protectors in the near future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As the existing arrangements for providing facilities of obtaining emigration clearance for the workers of the State of Gujarat through the registered Recruiting Agents are considered adequate, it is not proposed to appoint any Protector of Emigrants in the State for the time being.